

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Official Action. The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Application as examined included claims 1-39, of which claims 25-39 are withdrawn. Claims 19 and 24 are currently amended. Claims 23 and 25-39 have been cancelled. Claims 1-18 and 20-22 are unchanged.

Claims 19-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maula (U.S. Patent No. 6,218,967) in view of Torunoglu et al (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0132921).

The allowance of claims 1-18 and the allowability of claims 23 and 24 are noted with appreciation.

Maula describes an arrangement for the optical remote control of an apparatus, employing the palm of a hand or a finger of an operator as a control, including a light transmitter including several light sources. Torunoglu describes an input device detecting movement of a user's fingers on an inert work surface and transmitting signals representing the detected input to an electronic device.

Applicants believe all of the claims to be patentable, however, in order to facilitate allowance of this case, claim 19 has been amended to include the recitation of allowable claim 23 and it therefore allowable. Claim 24 has been amended to depend from claim 19 instead of cancelled claim 23.

Claims 20-22 and 24 depend directly or ultimately from claim 19 and recite additional patentable matter and therefore are also allowable.

Claim 23 and previously withdrawn claims 25-39 have been cancelled without prejudice.

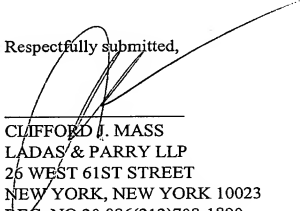
Applicant has carefully studied the remaining prior art of record herein and concludes that the invention as described and claimed in the present application is neither shown in nor suggested by the cited art.

Applicant reserves the right to pursue the claims as filed in the context of

a continuation or divisional application.

In view of the foregoing remarks, all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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